GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:582
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
FEMALE WORKERS IN COAL MINES
BASUDEB ACHARIA;BIKASH CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of female workers working in coal sector as on June 30, 2001, subsidiary-wise ;

(b) whether there has been any decline in the number of female workers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard ;

(e) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) have stoppedemploying female candidates on compassionate ground ;

(f) if so, the number of applications of such candidates lying pending with the ECL and CIL as on date; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that CIL and ECL provide employment to such female candidates?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) The number of female employees working in Coal sector subsidiary-wise as on 30th June,2001 is given as under :-

COMPANY	STRENGTH OF FEMALE EMPLOYEES AS ON 30/6/2001
Eastern Coalfields Limited.	9084
Bharat Coking Coal Limited.	8380
Central Coalfields Limited.	5941
Western Coalfields Limited.	3566
South Eastern Coalfields Limited.	3276
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited.	902
Northern Coaldields Limited.	420
North Eastern Coalfields Limited.	286
Coal Mines Planning & Design. Institute Limited.	143
Dankuni Coal Complex.	21
Coal India Limited (HQ)	180
TOTAL	32199

(b) Yes, Sir. The number of female workers has declined from 33871 as on 1.4.2000 to 32199 as on 30.06.2001.

(c) & (d) : The work in Coal Industry is hazardous innature, and therefore, there is limited scope for employment of female employees. Moreover, there are restrictions on their employment in underground operations as also in second and third shifts. Due to these reasons, intake of female employees is restricted to dependent employment in case of death of their spouse while in service.

(e) No Sir, CIL and ECL have not stopped employing female candidates on compassionate ground although female candidatesare encouraged to opt for monetary compensation in lieu of employment, which is paid till they attain the age of superannuation.

(f) & (g) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (e) above.